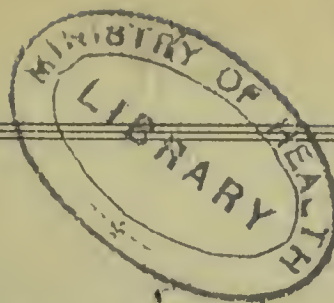


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**Eston Urban District Council.**



# ANNUAL REPORT

. OF .

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR 1925.







# **Eston Urban District Council.**

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## **ANNUAL REPORT**

. OF .

### **THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1926.**

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE ESTON URBAN COUNCIL.  
*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

I have much pleasure in respectfully submitting the Annual Report for the year 1925, to your favourable notice.

It will be interesting from the fact that it is intended to show the comparisons for the last five years. The health of the District is fairly satisfactory when one takes into consideration the privations suffered by many of the inhabitants through lack of work, as this has been one of the hardest hit districts in the Kingdom, though recently, there has been a slight improvement in the trade conditions of the District.

During the year there has been a good deal of sickness, we had epidemics of Chickenpox, Mumps, Measles and Influenza, and one case of Smallpox.

The Death rate notwithstanding, has been kept pretty low. Only one case of notifiable Diseases, succumbed in the Hospital, though there have been several fatalities caused by pneumonia following Influenza. As Tubercular cases are now notifiable, we find that the disease is fairly prevalent in the District, it helps to add to the Death rate of our District.

The percentages, and our reasoned description, will be found in the contents of this Book.

I must express my pleasure at the whole-hearted efforts that have been put forward by the Council to exterminate the Disease.

## GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of District (Acres)	...	...	5,585
Population (Census 1921)	...	...	30,634
Population (1925)	...	...	33,800
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)			6,161
Rateable Value	...	...	£217,848 3 0
Sum represented by a penny rate	...		£780 net.

## POOR LAW RELIEF.

The amount of Poor Law Relief paid during the year 1925, was, £32,957 11s. 7d., details of the districts and quarters of the year are set out below : -

## SOUTH BANK DISTRICT.

	Out Relief.				Lunatics.		
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Quarter ended March, 1925	4550	10	2	...	12	12	6
"    "    June, 1925 ...	4505	17	1	...	19	4	9
"    "    Sept. 1925 ...	4710	12	8	...	7	0	4
"    "    Dec. 1925 ...	5100	0	9	...	6	8	6

## GRANGETOWN DISTRICT.

	Out-Relief.				Lunatics.		
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Quarter ended March, 1925	3418	5	5	...	19	15	0
"    "    June, 1925 ...	3325	4	5	...	7	14	0
"    "    Sept. 1925	3398	13	5...		31	11	6
"    "    Dec. 1925 ...	3844	1	1	...	-	-	-

## DEATHS.

During the year 1925, there were 386 deaths registered in the district, of these 198 were Males and 188 Females, equal to a death rate of 11.4 per 1,000 population, whilst 45 deaths of Eston District persons occurred outside our area, and 8 deaths of non-residents were registered in the District, thus giving a corrected rate of 12.5 per 1,000 population.

The number of deaths registered in 1925, show a decrease of 53 on those of the previous year.

- 81 deaths occurred under 1 year of age.
- 52 over 1 year and under 5 years.
- 10 over 5 years and under 10 years.
- 9 over 10 years and under 15 years.
- 14 over 15 years and under 25 years.
- 45 over 25 years and under 45 years.
- 79 over 45 years and under 65 years and
- 96 over 65 years of age.

The main causes of death were :—

Pneumonia, Bronchitis, Pulmonary Tuberculosis, Cancer, Cerebral Haemorrhage, Heart Disease, Congenital Debility, Senile Decay, Gastro Enteritis, Premature Birth, Arterio-sclerosis and Meningitis.

### INFANT MORTALITY.

The number of deaths under 1 year of age, during the year, was 81, of these 37 legitimate and 2 illegitimate, were Males, and 41 legitimate and 1 illegitimate were Females corresponding to a Mortality Rate of 105.8 per 1,000 nett births.

The above numbers show a decrease of 11 of these deaths on those of the previous year.

The chief causes of death under 1 year of age were due to Pneumonia, Bronchitis, Premature Birth, Congenital Debility, Gastro Enteritis and Convulsions.

Deaths from Measles (All ages)	...	...	7
Deaths from Whooping Cough (All ages)	...	...	6
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	10

### CORONER'S INQUESTS.

Inquests were held respecting the deaths of 20 persons, viz :—

Accidents	...	...	...	...	12
Sudden Deaths	...	...	...	...	6
Drowning	...	...	...	...	1
Suicide	...	...	...	...	1
					—
Total					20
					==

4 deaths due to accidents occurred in houses, 3 in Eston Mines, 3 in the street, 1 in Eston Hospital and 1 at Cleveland Iron Works.

The chief causes of sudden death were due to Heart Affections.

### BIRTHS.

During the year 1925, there were 765 births registered in the District ; of these 371 were Males (358 Legitimate and 13 Illegitimate) and 394 Females (378 Legitimate and 16 Illegitimate) equal to a birth-rate of 22.6 per 1,000 population.

The births for 1925 show a decrease of 106 on those for 1924.

#### BIRTHS :—

		Total		Males.		Females.
Legitimate ...	...	736	...	358	...	378
Illegitimate	...	29	...	13	...	16
		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
		765	...	371	...	394
		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>

#### COMPARATIVE INFANT MORTALITY RATES.

1921	...	...	...	104.5	per 1,000 births.		
1922	...	...	...	92.6	„	„	„
1923	...	...	...	93.8	„	„	„
1924	...	...	...	105.6	„	„	„
1925	...	...	...	105.8	„	„	„

#### STILL-BIRTHS.

During the year the bodies of 39 still-born children were buried at the Cemetery for the District, the numbers for the different quarters being 8, 8, 14 and 9.

This number shows an increase of 11 on those for 1924.

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

During the year 668 cases of Infectious Disease were notified, which shows an increase of 223 cases on the previous year.

Disease.		Total cases notified.		Rate per 1,000. population		cases admitted to Hospital.		Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	...	197	...	5.8	...	165	...	2
Chickenpox	...	393	...	11.6	...	—	...	—
Diphtheria	...	27	...	0.7	...	8	...	6
Erysipelas	...	26	...	0.7	...	—	...	—
Smallpox	...	1	...	—	...	1	...	—
Puerperal Fever	...	1	...	—	...	—	...	1
Pneumonia	...	23	...	0.6	...	—	...	71



## SCARLET FEVER.

			Total cases notified.		Deaths.
Over 1 year and under 2 years	...	...	9	...	—
Over 2 years and under 3 years	...	...	12	...	—
Over 3 years and under 4 years	...	...	12	...	—
Over 4 years and under 5 years	...	...	34	...	—
Over 5 years and under 10 years	...	...	66	...	1
Over 10 years and under 15 years	...	...	38	...	—
Over 15 years and under 20 years	...	...	9	...	1
Over 20 years and under 35 years	...	...	14	...	—
Over 35 years and under 40 years	...	...	3	...	—
			<hr/>		<hr/>
Totals	...	...	197	...	2
			<hr/>		<hr/>

## CHICKEN-POX.

			Total cases notified.		Deaths.
Under 1 year	...	...	18	...	—
Over 1 year and under 2 years	...	...	43	...	—
Over 2 years and under 3 years	...	...	33	...	—
Over 3 years and under 4 years	...	...	32	...	—
Over 4 years and under 5 years	...	...	57	...	—
Over 5 years and under 10 years	...	...	194	...	—
Over 10 years and under 15 years	...	...	11	...	—
Over 15 years and under 20 years	...	...	3	...	—
Over 20 years and under 35 years	...	...	2	...	—
			<hr/>		<hr/>
Totals	...	...	393	...	—
			<hr/>		<hr/>

## ERYSIPELAS.

			Total cases notified.		Deaths.
Over 1 year and under 2 years	...	...	1	...	—
Over 10 years and under 15 years	...	...	1	...	—
Over 15 years and under 20 years	...	...	1	...	—
Over 20 years and under 25 years	...	...	3	...	—
Over 25 years and under 35 years	...	...	2	...	—
Over 35 years and under 45 years	...	...	4	...	—
Over 45 years and under 65 years	...	...	14	...	—
			<hr/>		<hr/>
Total	...	...	26	...	—
			<hr/>		<hr/>

## DIPHTHERIA.

						Total cases notified.	Deaths.
Under 1 year of age ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Over 2 years and under 3 years	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
Over 3 years and under 4 years	...	...	...	...	...	3	—
Over 4 years and under 5 years	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Over 5 years and under 10 years	...	...	...	...	...	8	2
Over 10 years and under 15 years	...	...	...	...	...	3	—
Over 15 years and under 20 years	...	...	...	...	...	4	—
Over 20 years and under 35 years	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Over 35 years and under 45 years	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Totals ...						27	6

There were no cases of Ophthalmic Neonatorum notified during the year.

## CHICKEN POX.

ADDRESS.	AGE.		SCHOOL.		DATE.
4, Miles Street ...	...	6	...	North St. R.C. ...	5/5/26.
9, Diamond Street ...	...	4	...	Do. ...	5/5/26.
21, Graham Street ...	...	4	...	Do. ...	5/5/26.
11, Graham Street ...	...	3	...	Do. ...	5/5/26.
7, Wellington Street	...	5	...	Do. ...	11/5/26.
57, Sycamore C. ...	...	5	...	Do. ...	14/5/26.
33, Graham Street ...	...	6	...	Do. ...	14/5/26.
12, Branch End ...	...	5	...	Do. ...	14/5/26.
7, Upper Branch Street	...	5	...	Do. ...	17/5/26.
11, Peel Street ...	...	3	...	Do. ...	17/5/26.
51, Peel Street ...	...	4	...	Do. ...	17/5/26.
106, Normanby Road	...	4	...	Do. ...	17/5/26.
39, Napier Street ...	...	4	...	Do. ...	17/5/26.
18, Princess Street ...	...	5	...	Do. ...	17/5/26.
7, Pym Street ...	...	4	...	Do. ...	18/5/26.
11, Graham Street ...	...	...	...	...	...



## SCARLET FEVER.

Year.	Total cases notified.	Rate per 1,000 population.	Deaths.
In 1920 ...	178	5.5	2
In 1921 ...	98	3.0	2
In 1922 ...	220	6.8	1
In 1923 ...	338	10.3	5
In 1924 ...	180	5.3	4
In 1925 ...	197	5.8	2

## DIPHTHERIA.

In 1920 ...	27	0.8	4
In 1921 ...	28	0.8	
In 1922 ...	24	0.7	5
In 1923 ...	6	0.1	Nil.
In 1924 ...	30	0.8	1
In 1925 ...	27	0.7	6

ENTERIC FEVER.  
(Including Paratyphoid).

In 1920 ...	3	—	2
In 1921 ...	9	0.2	2
In 1922 ...	—	—	—
In 1923 ...	4	0.1	1
In 1924 ...	—	—	—
In 1925 ...	—	—	—

## CHICKENPOX Notifiable since 1922.

In 1922 ...	74	2.3	—
In 1923 ...	177	5.4	—
In 1924 ...	206	6.1	—
In 1925 ...	393	11.6	—

## SMALL POX.

In 1920 ...	2	—	—
In 1921 ...	6	0.1	—
In 1922 ...	13	0.4	—
In 1923 ...	2	—	—
In 1924 ...	15	0.4	—
In 1925 ...	1	—	—

### ERYSIPELAS.

In 1920 ...	...	19	...	0.6	...	—
In 1921 ...	...	12	...	0.3	...	—
In 1922 ...	...	17	...	0.5	...	1
In 1923 ...	...	14	...	0.4	...	—
In 1924 ...	...	14	...	0.4	...	—
In 1925 ...	...	26	...	0.7	...	—

### PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

In 1920 ...	...	47	...	1.4	...	36
In 1921 ...	...	34	...	1.0	...	24
In 1922 ...	...	37	...	1.1	...	28
In 1923 ...	...	62	...	1.9	...	20
In 1924 ...	...	46	...	1.3	...	34
In 1925 ...	...	63	...	1.8	...	27

### OTHER FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS.

In 1920 ...	...	12	...	0.3	...	19
In 1921 ...	...	12	...	0.3	...	4
In 1922 ...	...	9	...	0.2	...	10
In 1923 ...	...	17	...	0.5	...	18
In 1924 ...	...	12	...	0.3	...	18
In 1925 ...	...	26	...	0.7	...	15

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES ADMITTED TO SANATORIUM.

In reference to the cases admitted to the Sanatorium, you will observe from the Table below that a large number of Scarlet Fever patients were admitted, and you will see that only one death occurred during the last year, although the numbers admitted were pretty high, and this would indicate that the epidemics were of a fairly mild type, and that many of the cases would be traced most distinctly through overcrowding due to increased population, and a lack of houses. In reference to the question of Special Treatment so far the Schich and Dick Tests in Dyphtheria and Scarlet Fever have not been carried out in the present Sanatorium as I did not consider the surroundings as being adequate for such. I placed the matter some time ago before the Council, and they were perfectly prepared to assist in carrying out anything that was necessary for the protection of the patients and Staff, and that we could order anything we required when the new Infectious Disease Hospital was opened.

If we look at the Dyphtheria Chart we will find that the notifications were gradually increasing, and reached the climax in 1924, when the number reached 25.

The following year this number fell to 8. In the year 1923 there were none reported, and this in my opinion makes me feel that the large number in 1924 was brought about by the stirring up of the latent disease in carrying out the Conversion and that the small number in 1925 was due to the enhanced Sanitary conditions in the District brought about by the Water Carriage System.

### ENTERIC FEVER.

The Chart below, shews that for the last 4 years there has been no case reported, or admitted to the Sanatorium, and we can consider that we are now getting a hold of the Insanitary Conditions, due to the lax methods forced upon us by the Great War.

### SMALL-POX.

For the last 5 or 6 years we have had practically a continuance of Small-pox of a fairly mild nature, and that no deaths occurred. Several of the cases were developed outside of the area ; one case in particular being a member of the crew of a ship lying in Smith's Dry Dock, who had come ashore for Medical Treatment. Several other cases were notified from Ships lying at Smith's Dock, but as they were considered, though lying in a dry Dock, to be under the Authority of the Tees Port Sanitary Commission, they were removed outside the Area for treatment, and that we as an authority saw to W.Cs. and Urinals near to where the vessel was lying, that they were thoroughly fumigated, and we inspected and watched for some time everyone who had been in contact.

### VENEREAL DISEASE.

The care of this Disease rests with the County Council who have arranged for treatment at several Clinics and this has been made known publicly by Handbills and permanent signs fixed up in public urinals and water closets, offering treatment free. In spite of this there has been an increase of this Disease in our neighbourhood. This can be accounted for to a great extent by the nature of one of our Industries and that is the Ship Building and Ship Repairing, which is carried on here . In many instances the nature of the repairs requires the Ship to be here for weeks and in some cases for months before these are complete and in the case of Foreign Ships the whole of the Crew remain on Board. We are also engaged in the importing of Foreign Ore and the shipment of Iron, Steel and Basic Slag and many foreign Ships engage in this traffic. Our Council is fully alive to this and they feel that nothing short of notification as in Scarlet, Enteric, &c., would enable them to wipe out the scourge. They consider that they should have powers to place them so that the Disease could be eradicated and prevent the propagation and begetting of a syphilitic race. They point out that Neonatorum has to be notified so that children born under these circumstances can be properly treated and so prevent the fell calamity of Blindness.

### CASES ADMITTED TO SANATORIUM. (Infectious Diseases.)

Year.	Scarlet Fever.	Diptheria.		Enteric Fever.		Small- pox.	Since 1920 Observation Small-pox.	Continued Fever.	Puerperial Fever.
1920	... 155	...	16	...	1	...	1	...	—
1921	... 86	...	18	...	8	...	2	...	—
1922	... 153	...	21	...	—	...	2	...	1
1923	... 241	...	—	...	—	...	1	...	—
1924	... 149	...	25	...	—	...	1	...	—
1925	... 165	...	8	...	—	...	—	...	—

### SMALL POX PREVENTION.

This Council possesses a Hospital situated near the Cleveland Hills, which was used for the admission of Smallpox cases and was furnished with a staff who were kept within the Hospital Grounds, till such times as cases were able to be discharged.

Our method of procedure was carried out most religiously. If the patient was notified as suffering from Small-pox we had him removed immediately to the Hospital, and closed up the house at once. We then vaccinated or re-vaccinated the members of the household, and kept them indoors for a fortnight. During that time an official of the Council visited the House morning and night to provide them with Groceries and any other necessities. The Medical Officer of Health visited regularly to watch the inmates so as no slight case could be missed. Attention was then paid to the Hospital case, and the patient was vaccinated or re-vaccinated as the case may be. The House was thoroughly fumigated and all the clothes in contact with the patient or the helpers were removed in a closed carriage and thoroughly disinfected. I found that this Routine usually stamped out an epidemic however irksome it may have been to the people concerned.

### INFLUENZA MORTALITY RATE.

In regard to the Influenza Mortality Rate, I give you the number of deaths and the percentages of the thousand of the population, and you will observe that this shews what one would term epidemic cyclone. The worst year connected with this report shews a % equal to 0.9% of the thousand of the population, and these numbers in my opinion fall short of what actually occurred, as there is no official notification of this particular disease; and that many of the deaths have been registered simply as pneumonia, and that one will not be able to give a correct record till notification becomes an official requirement.



During this particular year the Death Rate was materially increased through a Ship's crew composed of Lascars who developed pneumonia rapidly. We had a striking example of this in 1918 when a whole Ship's crew of Lascars were infected, and many of them were sent to Holgate Hospital. The Captain appealed for help in this neighbourhood when the Ship was lying in Smith's Dry Dock. I visited the vessel and as the conditions were not favourable for the proper treatment I arranged with the Chairman of the Council, and got his assistance in securing a Mission Room, connected with the Church of England and we furnished it with material from the Council Stores, and placed a Nurse with several of the Ladies and Ambulance men of the District who had passed the Nursing Examination and had assisted the Navy throughout the Great War.

#### INFLUENZA MORTALITY RATE SINCE 1920.

Year.	Number of Deaths.				Rate per thousand of the population.
1920	...	12	...	...	0.3
1921	...	7	...	...	0.2
1922	...	30	...	...	0.9
1923	...	2	...	...	—
1924	...	21	...	...	0.6
1925	...	10	...	...	0.2

#### TUBERCULOSIS.

During the year 1925, 63 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 26 cases of other forms of Tuberculosis were notified.

This shows an increase of 17 Pulmonary cases and an increase of 14 other forms of Tuberculosis on those notified during the previous year.

There were 27 deaths caused by Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 15 deaths by other forms of Tuberculosis.

#### TUBERCULOSIS :—

	Total cases notified.		Rate per 1,000 Population.		Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
(A) Pulmonary—Male	29	...	...	...	...	14
Female	34	...	...	...	...	13
	—		—		—	—
Total ...	63	...	1.8	...	...	27
	==		==		==	==

(B) Non-Pulmonary Male	13	...	...	...	6
Female	13	...	...	...	9
	—		—	—	—
Total	26	...	0.7	...	15
	—		—	—	—

### NOTIFICATION OF TUBERCULOSIS.

The notification of Tuberculosis is made to the Medical Officer of Health, who makes an inspection and sends a list of reported cases to the County Medical Officer weekly. There is a Tuberculosis Dispensary run by the County Council in our Area, which is open one day per week. The Officer in charge makes arrangement for sending cases he selects to a Sanatorium for treatment. When they are discharged from the Sanatorium a notice is sent to the Medical Officer of Health. If a person suffering from Tubercle dies at Home the house is thoroughly disinfected after the Funeral has taken place. The following Report was made at the request of the Council and gives a general account of our feelings in regard to the scourge. The Milk seller has to be registered and before a License is granted the Premises are thoroughly inspected to see that there can be no contamination of the Milk, and that the vendors are free from disease, and if there was any development of Tubercle found in any member of the Distributor's family suffering from that disease, or the Distributor himself, we would suspend his license as long as he remained a danger to the General Public.

The problem of Tuberculosis in our area is a very urgent one and though a great help is given by the County Council, it falls far short of what is actually needed, if their endeavour is to stamp out the plague, as there is a great difficulty in getting beds quickly and in sufficient numbers. We were led to believe that if they were got early, these cases would be dealt with at once, and so prevent the young life from being a burden to themselves and a danger to their intimates and the general public at large, and this—in my opinion—requires prompt and practical treatment to eradicate the outset. We now come to more advanced cases where the bacillus is active and where the patient is expectorating freely, sputum which contains the germs which may attack outsiders. This class usually suffers greatly from night sweats, which is again a source of infection to a very marked degree. These cases are usually refused treatment at Sanatorium, as it is considered that they will not receive much benefit and that they keep the primary cases from getting the benefit of a bed in the Institution.

Then we have to consider the advanced cases in our area, who are either too ill to travel or are considered to be helpless cases. They remain at home and propagate their disease throughout their neighbourhood and in many cases have to be supported by the Guardians.



When we come to examine the results of the treatment, we find that the results are far from satisfactory. They come back direct to their former homes and in many instances to their former employment, and, within six months are worse than ever. They usually develop hemorrhage and are soon cut off; others drift into their former insanitary conditions and become stricken, helpless creatures, and finally land upon the Guardians for their support.

To my mind this routine is far from right as there ought to be a middle station to which people dismissed from Hospital should be sent, where work suitable to their condition could be had and practised, as it is well known to all of you that a great part of the work in our neighbourhood is laborious and dusty, and that the atmosphere surrounding many of our Works sets up an irritation in the throat and chest and is not suitable for phthisical patients.

The difficulty to my mind is to get discharged patients who earned good wages at the Works to take up light work in the country districts as the wages are less and they miss the life of the towns.

I should also draw your attention to the fact that many of those discharged, soon forget the lessons they learned in the Sanatorium as to how they should protect themselves when they have returned to their homes, as it becomes irksome and they cannot be bothered.

The small children are taken up by the County Council at Morris Grange and this should help in a great degree to check the spread of the disease, though you have again to note the insufficiency of beds for all classes of Tubercle in young children. There is also the difficulty in getting parents to place young children in hospital, as the distance is great and they wish to feel there is no Tubercle in their family.

This has been lessened pretty much in the case of old and young by the new help given by the County Council in arranging for sputum to be examined free in the Laboratory at Scarborough, in strengthening the diagnosis made by the Medical Attendant.

There is no doubt that the number of phthisical patients in our area can be attributed to the Great War. We entered into an arrangement we were not prepared for; it was a continual cry for recruits and to their honour they replied more quickly than the Authorities had made provisions for them. They were often huddled together like sheep and as ventilation was at a discount, the seeds which attacked them in after life were sown.

When we come to our responsibilities, we find that the shortage of houses caused great overcrowding with dire results. The sanitary conditions were neglected and this, added to the unclean conditions of many houses in our area, added fuel to the flames. There is still much to be done in regard to Housing, as reports come in daily in regard to overcrowding, and a cry for houses is the result.

The problem is of great magnitude and is too serious to be undertaken properly by any local Authority. It should be taken up by the Imperial Government, as one of the gravest difficulties that could face any Government, who wish to see an A.I. Race in our land. It is an economic question if we look at it from a correct angle, as the country should be divided into areas, so that overlapping would be done away with and the continuous treatment could be carried out at a fraction of the expense paid out at present in a haphazard way.

#### PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

	Cases notified				Deaths			
	Males.		Females.		Males.		Females.	
Over 1 year and under 2 years ...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...
Over 3 years and under 4 years ...	—	...	1	...	—	...	1	...
Over 4 years and under 5 years ...		...	1	...	—	...	1	...
Over 5 years and under 10 years	3	...	6	...	—	...	2	...
Over 10 years and under 15 years	3	...	4	...	—	...	3	...
Over 15 years and under 20 years	2	...	3	...	2	...	1	...
Over 20 years and under 35 years	11	...	9	...	4	...	3	...
Over 35 years and under 45 years	4	...	8	...	4	...	1	...
Over 45 years and under 65 years	5	...	1	...	3	...	—	...
	—		—		—		—	
Total ...	29	...	34	...	14	...	13	...
	—		—		—		—	

#### OTHER FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS.

	Cases notified				Deaths			
	Males.		Females.		Males.		Females.	
Over 1 year and under 2 years ...	2	...	2	...	2	...	2	...
Over 2 years and under 3 years ...	—	...	1	...	—	...	1	...
Over 4 years and under 5 years ...	2	...	—	...	1	...	—	...
Over 5 years and under 10 years	2	...	5	...	1	...	2	...
Over 10 years and under 15 years	4	...	3	...	1	...	1	...
Over 15 years and under 20 years	1	...	—	...	—	...	1	...
Over 20 years and under 35 years	2	...	2	...	1	...	2	...
	—		—		—		—	
Total ...	13	...	13	...	6	...	9	...
	—		—		—		—	

## SANATORIUM AND ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

During the year 1925, 174 cases were treated in the Sanatorium and Isolation Hospital, as follows :—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	165
Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Smallpox ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total ...						<hr/> 174 <hr/>

This shows a decrease of 16 on those for the previous year.

Only one death occurred in the Sanatorium during the year, this was attributable to Scarlet Fever.

The Sanatorium was again taxed to its utmost limit but it is very gratifying to know that with the exception of the one case mentioned above, all were discharged cured.

The work of the Sanatorium was carried out by the Matron (Miss Wratten) and her Staff in a most satisfactory manner.

## CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

During the year the sickness specially noteworthy in the district was an attack of Influenza, most of the cases were mild, although in some cases Pneumonia developed, it is very gratifying to know that there were only 11 deaths due to Influenza. We also had an epidemic of Scarlet Fever, Chickenpox and Mumps, Chickenpox especially was again very prevalent throughout the district. I visited all the patients and kept them under observation, as we had 1 case of Smallpox and wished to take every precaution against further spreading of the disease. I found that many of the Chickenpox cases had not been vaccinated and any suspicious case met with, was promptly vaccinated, and in this way we were able to get over one hundred cases of primary vaccination done.

We had several cases of proved Ptomaine poisoning occurring in the district through tainted food. One of the worst types occurred at a Church Bazaar Sale, which was being assisted by members of the Congregation preparing articles of food for sale to augment the Funds. One of the members prepared a large quantity of Potted Meat and put it up in small jars. These were sold to the visitors and the following morning I heard of the serious illness of several of those who attended the Sale.

On investigation, I found they had all partaken of the Potted Meat, and the symptoms being similar I got the Police to seize the stock left and to warn the buyers of the danger of partaking of this food. I sent samples of it to the Analyst, who reported Ptomaine.

Fortunately no deaths occurred, though many of those who partook of the meat were prostrate for days. It seems that the meat was perfectly sound when cooked and was put into the receptacles whilst hot and not properly sealed. The other cases were due to tainted food.

The large number of Scarlet Fever cases can be attributed in many instances to overcrowding due to the shortage of houses as well as very mild cases being overlooked by the Mothers and not being recognised till desquamation showed itself.

In regard to Chicken Pox, this disease has been made notifiable and the Public been warned by Leaflet and Posted Bills of the penalty accruing to those who try to evade the order.

The Drainage of the whole District has been made absolutely perfect by the different relays that have been carried out during the last few years. The following Courses have been opened up and relaid with an eye to the future advancement of the District, *viz.*, Cleveland Sewer, Tee Road Sewer, Nelson Sewer, Went Street Sewer and Grangetown Conveniences.

The Scavenging of the District has been greatly improved by the Water Carriage System, which has done away with all the filthy work connected with the Pan Closet and Middens connections and the Dry Bin system is now in vogue. The area has been divided into Districts and we now employ two covered Motor Lorries and three large covered Vans for the removal of the Bin contents and the refuse from places of business. This has wrought well so far if you examine it from an economic and a Health point of view. The area is large and some parts of the District lie a good way from the Central Depot, and are best served by the Motors. The refuse has been disposed of by filling up large open cavities left by the owners of old disused works sites, by levelling them up and making them fit for erections being placed upon them at a future time. The refuse is sorted out and all material which would in any way act as a breeder of disease, is burned. The Council have looked for some time on this Refuse being made a source of profit to the Township by means of a Screening plant to get the Cinders gathered up as a Fuel and the Tins and other materials made marketable.

In the area there are two streams, one of which is Tidal, one on the North side of the area, and the other on the East side of the area.



Some time ago we had a certain amount of trouble at one of the Farms through stagnant affluent from one of these streams, which was very disagreeable. This was thoroughly investigated and soon remedies were put into effect and this nuisance was soon abated. On the North side we have the River Tees extending beyond Stockton. All the residue and affluent are poured into this river from Coke oven plants where Benzole, Tar and other bye-products are delivered from, also we have the Chemical Works, Large Foundries etc. which also add to a certain amount of the pollution of the River and naturally this affluent extends to the streams which are mentioned above.

There have been at different times serious trouble and controversies with the Tees Fishing Board, who protect the Salmon Fishing in the Lower Reaches of this River.

They maintain that the pollution of the River from the various Residue affects the Salmon Fish Life. At different times there have been samples of the River water taken, and this naturally tends to heated arguments in favour of the Salmon Life.

Then on the other hand, if you stop the pollution of the River from the various Works, and Foundries, this would mean the stoppage of these Industries.

So as time goes on these controversies take place, and they have to simmer down in favour of Industry.

#### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICE IN THE AREA.

The Eston District Area has a large General Hospital, which was erected by Messrs. Bolckow, Vaughan and Co., Ltd., for their workmen and their families. It began in a small way for the treatment of accidents for their spacious works, and was very successful for such. As time went on it was considered advisable that this should partake more of a nature of a General Hospital, and the Committee, which is made up of Representatives for the Employers and Representatives for the Employees, and 3 Representatives of the Medical and Surgical Staff, who deal with the cases connected with Bolckow, Vaughan & Co., Works.

They collaborated, and the result was that a large addition was made to the Hospital, and it now consists of 2 large Male Wards and a large Female Ward, and a Ward for children, and that each Medical man attends to his own patients and that this goes very well. They were now able to take any cases however important, and as cases of very great gravity were now admitted, it was considered advisable to increase the Staff.

The Staff at this time, consisted of ten Medical men, who assisted one another at any major operation that was needed. The Committee and the Medical Staff considered it advisable that a Consultant Surgeon should be added to the Staff, and at present we have an F.R.C.S.E. We then introduced an Anaesthetist, who attends at the principal operations. We introduced an Eye Surgeon and are preparing to get a Physician placed on the Staff.

The work conducted at the Hospital can be placed alongside of any General Hospital in the Kingdom.

They have introduced an X-Ray Apparatus which is of great help to the Staff.

The large public Works in the area have built two large Ambulance Rooms, for accidents which occur on the works, and in the case of Bolckow, Vaughan & Co., Ltd., Cargo Fleet Iron Co., Ltd., and Smiths Dock Co., they each have 3 Ambulance men on duty, covering the 24 hours of the day ; so that an accident or serious illness can be looked to at once. In the case of the Cargo Fleet Iron and Steel Works, this is carried still further and they have provided a small Ward adjoining the operating room, so that persons suffering from shock through accident, or the inhalation of gas or the development of any serious illness, can be put to bed in a Central Heated Room and every attention and treatment is given by the Work's Surgeon and the Ambulance men on duty, and when considered necessary they can be removed to their home by Taxi or Motor Ambulance.

We have 2 Nursing Homes in our area for accidents, operations of importance, and Maternity cases. These are of great importance in affording good conditions, particularly for pregnant women, who live in rooms, through shortage of houses, and we have had since War time a Town Ambulance Brigade, who possess a motor Ambulance. This Brigade lays itself out for the conveyance of accidents and cases being sent to the Hospital for medical and surgical treatment, and a squad is usually told off to accompany the Ambulance and superintend the removal of the patients. Members of the Brigade go very willingly to assist in nursing the serious cases, more particularly pneumonia.

The Brigade have passed Examinations for the Nursing Certificate ; and many of them have volunteered and been accepted by the Admiralty as sick-bay attendants, but up till now have been prevented from serving on board Ship or in the Hospital, on account of the epidemics of Small Pox which have occurred here and in the immediate neighbourhood. It is expected that they may have an opportunity shortly ; and we have Ambulance Classes connected with the principal works, with the Railway and the Police. So far the number of eligible in 1925, and who received Certifi-



cates would total over 100, and we frequently run a nursing class for Ladies, who take a great interest in the work and who are of great service in the epidemics of Influenza, etc.

A General Report from the Superintendent of the Brigade which appears in another page will shew the official work performed by the Brigade and the Ambulance during 1925. You will also see the Statistics on another page of the work performed in the 2 Infectious Disease Hospitals belonging to the Council, whose staff undertook the nursing of the Infectious Diseases in what is called the Eston Sanatorium. and the other called the Small-pox Hospital.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.**

The office of the Medical Officer of Health is part time, though his duties, require his presence daily at the Hospitals or Council Headquarters. There is a Sanitary Inspector, and an assistant Sanitary Inspector. The Sanitary Inspector possesses the Diploma of Meat Inspector and reports to the Medical Officer of Health, any case which is considered to be detrimental to the Health of the inhabitants, and he visits and inspects and gives instructions if necessary for the destruction of the articles involved and decides whether or not a prosecution should follow.

There is a Tuberculosis Dispensary in the area, which is run by a Tuberculosis Officer from the Staff of the County Medical Officer. This Officer examines patients free of charge and gives them Cod Liver Oil if necessary, and sends those he considers eligible adults to Aysgarth Sanatorium for Treatment. The children are sent to Morris Grange Hospital, which has been acquired by the County Council. In reference to Tubercular cases which require Surgical treatment, they are sent to various Hospitals and the expenses of those not able to contribute are borne by the Council.

### **SCHOOL INTIMATIONS.**

In reference to the Schools I may state that I receive a weekly communication containing the names and particulars of the disease given and which I compare with the Notification received from the Medical practitioners, and if there is any case that has not been notified by such as being stated by the School Intimation, I visit the House at once, and if necessary remove them to the Hospital and see that thorough disinfection has taken place at Home.

In addition to that, what is called the School Clinic notifies me of any case which comes under the Laws of the Sanitary Committee, and I accordingly look into the matter. The Clinic also furnishes the Medical attendant of any pupil whom they consider requires special medical treatment or surgical operation.

## CLEANSING AND DISINFECTION OF VERMINOUS PERSONS.

This area is a partner in the Holgate Hospital Scheme, and we have the privilege of sending any case to that Institution for the Cleansing and Disinfection of verminous persons, and their belongings. In regard to the question of the Disinfection of premises our mode of action is as follows :—So far as premises are concerned, we fumigate if it is at all possible, and if not, we use the spray freely. In regard to the question of articles which are fit for removal, they are taken to a Steam Disinfector, which is situated within the Grounds of the Hospital, and being portable can be taken to any part of the District as required.

During the time of the epidemic of Small Pox, if we found that any case reported as such, had been working in any of these parts, we made arrangements at once to fumigate that building and spray it and the materials used. On several occasions we had to go to the large Works of Bolckow Vaughan & Co., Ltd., Smith's Dock Co., Ltd., Shipbuilders, Ship Repairers and Dock Proprietors and the Cargo Fleet Iron and Steel Co., Ltd. We found that this gave great confidence and settled the minds of the fellow workmen. We also, as a preventative on one occasion forbade the crew of a large Ship which was lying in the Dry Dock, to come ashore to the W.Cs. and Urinals, which were situated along the Dock side and we provided utensils for carrying of the excretor night and morning, so as no hardship could arise and in doing so prevented the outside workmen from running any chance of developing the disease

## THE HOUSING CONDITIONS.

There is still a great dearth of houses in the District and this causes a great deal of overcrowding and has a great tendency to lower the vitality of many of the inhabitants and acts as a feeder to the large number of persons who are suffering from Tuberculosis. It is practically impossible to combat the overcrowding so long as the shortage lasts. The Urban Council has done everything in their power by means of Direct Labour to overcome the deficiency but they are still far behind through building operations being at a standstill through War conditions and an increase in population of practically four thousand during the last five years. There are many houses with two families in residence, as many young people are marrying and are forced to live in rooms. The repairs to Houses were at a standstill for the same reason, the lack of workmen and through the landlords having been hard hit through lack of employment causing a great loss by the accumulating of arrears in rent; they have responded loyally to the request to put their houses in a habitable condition.

## HOUSING.

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR :—

(A) Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	156
(B) As part of a Municipal Housing Scheme	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	132

## 1. INSPECTION—UNFIT DWELLING-HOUSES :—

(1)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts	...	1,418
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Inspection of District Regulations, 1910.	... ..	48
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	... ..	Nil.
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub heading) found not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	... ..	48

## 2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	... ..	48
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## 3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS :—

## A. Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing and Town planning, &amp;c., Acts, 1919.

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	... ..	Nil.
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit.		
	(A) By Owners	... ..	Nil.
	(B) By Local Authority in default of Owners	...	Nil.
(3)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by Owners of intention to close	... ..	Nil.

## B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	... ..	528
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- (2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied.
- |   |      |
|---|------|
| (A) By Owners ... ..  | 878  |
| (B) By Local Authority in default of Owners ... ..  | Nil. |
| (c) Proceedings under Section 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Acts, 1909 ... .. | Nil. |
- (1) Number of representations made with a view to making of closing orders ... .. Nil.
- (2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders were made ... .. Nil.
- (3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders were determined, the dwelling house having been rendered fit ... .. Nil
- (4) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made ... .. Nil.
- (5) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders ... .. Nil.

### NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Within the District of the Eston Area there is a certain amount of Agricultural work going on and which employs a small number of men, but the chief Industries of this Area are Ironstone Mining, Calcining Ironstone, making Pig Iron, then into Steel. We export and deliver Pig Iron and also make Steel from Iron for Rolling into Rails. All sections and plates. This Area being such a valuable area as regards the productions of these sections and plates has a very valuable friend in Smith's Dock Co., Shipbuilders and Ship Repairers, which is within the area.

Thus we have in Messrs. Bolckow, Vaughan & Co., Ltd., Messrs. Cargo Fleet Iron Co., Ltd., and Smith's Dock Co., Ltd., three of the World's producers.

In time of good trade, these 3 works are well engaged and doing so employ a vast number of men indeed.

The social problem is one that should be encouraged.

First, Smith's Dock Co., have a very large Park for their staff and workmen, which provides all outdoor games.



Then we have a small pleasure ground near Wrightson's farm, and also another Park at Normanby, and the Cargo Fleet have a Recreation Ground for their Staff and workmen, but not in the Eston area, though near to the Boundary line. These are all conducive to good health. Then we have certain Dancing Halls in South Bank, Normanby, Eston and Grangetown, and also 5 Cinemas and Concert Halls, which take people whose pleasures are bent that way. Every effort should be made to bring the young people of this area of Eston to enjoy outdoor games, and it would be very pleasing and also add glow to the cheeks of most of the Inhabitants if more outdoor sports and contests were encouraged more regularly.

There is also a Girls' Club in the district, under the supervision of a Committee of Voluntary Workers, with a Lady Superintendent in charge. This Club does a very good work and is the means of many girls being kept off the streets. The girls are taught needlework, Social evenings are arranged in the Winter and outdoor picnics in the Summer, thus affording the members a much brighter outlook on life generally.

### INFLUENZA.

During the year 1925, we had an epidemic of Influenza in the early part of the year. Most of the cases were of a very mild type, and did not reach the severity of the epidemic in previous years. There were only 11 deaths during the year attributable to Influenza. This small death rate is due to the fact that people now recognise the dire effects which may follow Influenza if it is not properly treated—as the sharp example experienced in 1918 has not been forgotten. My experience of this disease leads one to take a grave view of cases which are ushered in with a high temperature and Bronchial Sputum, as it takes some days to clear off and the patients begin to consider they have passed the Crisis successfully. The temperature again rises suddenly and you get a bounding pulse, Pneumonic Sputum and a good deal of Delirium and thus acting on an already debilitated body oftens brings on a fatal termination, more particularly amongst the aged.

During the year the Cinemas were visited to see that they are kept in proper order, and that no danger may arise to the General Public. Where a Cinema has 2 Sessions per night, a visit is paid at Times between the Houses, so that the Second House has been well cleaned and fresh air has been freely admitted. I must say that the Proprietors have assisted very materially to carry this out.

LODGING HOUSES.—These Houses have been frequently visited by me, and I have always found them neat and clean and that the rooms are well aired.

They have special cupboards for each lodger to protect his food from being mixed up, or exposed.

Each lodger cooks his own food, and has his own special crockery. Each one must be in the house at a fixed time and lights also put out at a certain time as a protection against fire.

### AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

#### FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASE :—

There is a New Motor Ambulance and a Horse Ambulance kept by the Eston Urban District Council for the removal of Infectious cases.

#### FOR NON-INFECTIOUS AND ACCIDENT CASES :—

There is a Motor Ambulance run by the St. John Ambulance Brigade and particulars of their work carried out during the year 1925, are given below.

During this period the Car has travelled 1,484 miles, carried 149 patients, and 316 Voluntary Journeys have been made by members of the Eston Division in execution of this work.

The journeys during the year include 2 to York, 1 to Northallerton, and 3 attendances at Sedgefield Racecourse.

As heretofore, all private local cases duly vouched for by a Medical man, the Police or an Employer of Labour, necessitating local transport only, have been carried without any obligation whatever for payment.

The Brigade still find encouraging support whenever it is necessary to appeal for support to any section of the Public.

The Membership of the Division includes about 18 men as members of the Royal Naval Sick Berth Reserve, and this responsibility together with the Motor Ambulance Transport Service, occupies the principal activities of the Division.

The membership from Superintendent to the youngest recruit, are happy to be able to co-operate in this practical way towards the maintenance of the Local Health Service, and trust for many years to see this sphere of usefulness, satisfactorily continued.

In conclusion I beg to thank the Council and the Staff for their kindly help in enabling me to get together the details of this Report. If you analyse the present Report, you will find on comparing it with the previous Reports, one is struck forcibly by the amount of work which has been carried out in connection with the Improve-



ment of Sanitation of the Area, more particularly when one takes into consideration the adverse circumstances of the last 5 years, we have to notice that there has been a great deal of unemployment in this area ; in fact it has been one of the worst hit parts in the Kingdom, and the Council have struggled hard to relieve the state of affairs by carrying out many projects which have helped to give work to the unemployed and to bring up the Sanitation of the District to the highest level.

### CHILD WELFARE CENTRE.

The Annual Tea provided for the Mothers, took place on December 23rd, and was well attended, the Medical Officer in attendance gave a short address which was greatly appreciated. A Christmas Tree gaily decorated was provided for the children, each child being presented with a toy.

The Welfare is well attended by the Mothers and Babies who are well cared for by a band of voluntary lady workers and a County Council Nurse from the Schools. The babies are carefully examined and weighed and where there is anything abnormal it is brought to the notice of the Medical Officer and advice is given to guide them in treatment. The Mothers are at liberty to ask for the Medical Officer to attend to their wants.

The Welfare is doing a good work in bringing the Mothers together, as each one tries to present the neatest and most cared for child and as they see each one stripped they take the lesson to heart and try to improve on anything they have been lacking in.

I would again like to thank the Voluntary lady workers for their assistance week by week, in carrying out the duties of the Welfare Scheme, their services are greatly appreciated by the Mothers attending.

### THE TRADES OF THE DISTRICT.

The trades of this District are varied and are as follows :—The manufacture of Iron and Steel, Ship building, Ship repairing, Ironstone mining, Marine Engine building, Crushing of Basic Slag for manuring the land, Brick manufacturing, Wharf work, and Constructional Engineering.

You will see from the nature of the employment many of the Trades can be labelled as dangerous, and serious fatal accidents occur in the Mines, Blastfurnace plants, Steelworks and Shipbuilding establishments.

In reference to the Basic Slag Crushing. I am pleased to note that great improvements have been made through the legislation of the Home Office in eliminating the Dust problem..

It was quite common a few years ago for the workmen to be struck down with pneumonia, which was usually followed by death within 48 hours. The death-rate amongst these workmen from pneumonia is practically now normal.

In the making of the Pig-Iron the workmen work under very hard conditions and the Steel Trade is also very heavy and also hot. The workmen engaged in the manufacture of Iron and Steel are exposed to very great heat, and consequently are liable to chest inflammatory conditions. But there is one gratifying condition now in the Works. There is every attention paid to the men when they feel that they are not in any way feeling well at work and also accidents. It is to the interests of the firms to watch and care for their workmen and try and keep them in good condition.

Then we have Smith's Dock Co., who sometimes have an impetus of Repairing Work. This very often brings strangers from other districts and causes a certain amount of overcrowding for the time being, and causes discomfort to the Residents who are pleased to help them.

During the last five years the Council have made strenuous endeavours to keep pace with the rapid development of the Township. They have done away with the Privies and Middens and carried out the Water Carriage System throughout the Area, having converted over Five Thousand properties. This has had a very beneficial effect on the Sanitary conditions of the Area in getting rid of these Closets and Middens as they were a breeding ground for disease. It has also proved a boon to the Inhabitants in removing the Night Soil men from the streets as it was impossible for people to get rest during the night and early morning on account of the noise caused by these men in carrying out their work. The majority of the workers in this district work on the Eight Hours' Shift, which goes on continuously week in and week out ; and it was a real nuisance to meet these carts going and returning from work.

The Council have begun and practically completed a new and commodious Infectious Disease Hospital, which will be opened for receiving Patients early in 1926. The Site chosen for this Hospital, and the lay-out could not be improved upon as it nestles under the Cleveland Hills with a southerly aspect. The buildings are divided into an Administration Block, Scarlet Block, Dyphtheria and Typhoid Block. There are eight Cubicle Blocks and Central Heating is adopted throughout the buildings.

The Staff are housed away from the Wards and have separate rooms, dining rooms, and recreation rooms according to their status. There are the usual accessory rooms, such as Wash house, Drying Rooms, Laundry and a large Kitchen for cooking &c.

There is also a Mortuary on the latest principle. Receiving room and Discharge Room for the patients. Electricity is used throughout the buildings and we can claim to have the most up-to-date Hospital in the North.

They have also provided a Small Pox Hospital, which served a very good purpose during the epidemics of Small Pox which occurred in our neighbourhood.

They have paid particular attention to the drainage of our district and have put down a new sewer in South Bank, so that there should be no difficulty in carrying out the water carriage System successfully. They have Plans practically completed and costs made out for the drainage at Grangetown to be carried out to Low Water main at the sterns alongside of the Tees.

They have provided the Sanitary Department with a Horse Ambulance and a new and up-to-date Motor Ambulance for the conveying of patients to the Hospital. They have also provided a four wheeled closed carriage for the conveyance of clothing to our portable Steam Disinfector.

The Council have materially assisted the Health Department by purchasing 24 acres as a Public Park and Recreation Ground. They have laid out Lawn Tennis Courts, Bowling Green and Clock Golf.

They have rented 237 acres of the Cleveland Hills as a recreation space for the workmen and families to indulge in Pleasure Parties and Picnics, and are preparing to lay-out a large Golf Course for young and old to partake of their favourite game.

These enterprises are well removed from the irritating smoke and gases produced by the great undertakings in the manufacture of Iron and Steel and Coke, which, with Shipbuilding and Engineering are the staple Industries of the District. They have also established a small Rural Park with Pond and Waterfall, for the children of the Area, but more particularly for those living in Normanby. The lay out and the rustic appearance enhance its value very much.

The Council have striven hard to make up leeway caused by the Great War, in a shortage of Houses causing great overcrowding, and so propagating disease. It was impossible to take any drastic steps to do away with overcrowding as there was no other shelter to be found for them. This state of affairs presented us from condemning several of the houses as unfit for human habitation. The Council then resolved on building Houses by Direct Labour and this has been very successfully carried out by our Surveyor Engineer. There is still a considerable deficiency as the Population has increased rapidly during the last decade.



## IMPROVEMENT OF SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT CARRIED OUT DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

In reference to the above I may state that in this period there have been 420 Houses erected, which would have considerably decreased the overcrowding conditions that existed if the District had not grown at a rapid rate. This as you know, is a very great factor in decreasing the epidemics which occurred during War period.

Also carried out 4,000 Conversions to Water Carriage, costing £30,000., a feat that this Council can look back with pride and also they know that they have done their best for future generations to come. Also the Council have put New Sewers and Re-constructed Defective Sewers at a total cost of £14,000.

We have also built a New Infectious Hospital at a cost of £30,000, of which I have given you particulars in another part of my Report.

Also we have destroyed the old conveniences and built Underground conveniences at a cost of £1,000.

All these items with one object in view, that is safeguarding the Health of the District.

This is at a time when the Staple Trades of the District have had a very lean time, and as Trade improves it will be the desire of the Council to do everything possible to lessen disease of every description by bringing into service all the latest improvements for the Welfare of the population.

I am,

Yours most sincerely,

JOHN STEEL,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

## Sanitary Inspector's Report, 1925.

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*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

I herewith submit for your information and consideration my Annual Report, dealing with the sanitary work carried out in your District during the year ended December 31st, 1925.

The year has been one of great activity, and the inspections in all branches have been well maintained. As will be seen by the tabulated statements, continual inspections in many directions have been necessary. The greatest difficulty with regard to the repair of houses has been due to tenants being in arrears with rents, and owners not being in a position to bear the costs. Very few complaints have been made with regard to the requisitions of notices for repairs by owners, where there are no arrears of rent.

The passing of the Housing Act, 1925, which came into operation in July, greatly strengthens the powers previously held by local authorities, with respect to the inspections and repair of houses. Among other things it is provided that in default of the work not being carried out for which notices are served, the local authority may do the work and recover such expenses with interest by summary action, or by instalments from the owner or occupier. Whilst houses which are not capable without reconstruction of being rendered in all respects fit for habitation, may be closed, and acquired by the local authority. Bye-laws may also be made with respect to houses divided into separate tenements.

The Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, which came into operation on April 1st, 1925, also increased the efficiency of inspection of animals slaughtered for sale for consumption. It will be seen by the statement made in the report (2,061 visits, and 3,901 animals inspected) that the meat supply in the area is kept under close observation and all possible steps taken to ensure that no diseased or unsound meat or food is exposed for sale.

The Scavenging and Cleansing of the District was well maintained during the year. In this direction the year was exceptional, in so much that night soil was completely removed from the collections, a forward step in Sanitary administration, which had been looked forward to for a considerable period, and greatly simplifying the problem of disposal.

During the transition period, whilst water carriage conversions were in progress, careful consideration was given to the financial aspect. Although the night scavenging was discontinued, the amount of refuse to collect was not appreciably decreased, but, whereas the ground was mostly covered twice by the collection, once is now sufficient. As far as possible records are kept of the details of the work, and care taken not to exceed the estimates. I would here like to emphasise the necessity of being in a position to give accurate costs of tonnage of collection, which would be a great help in efficiency and expose any item on which economy could be effected.

As no mention is made in the Report of the work carried out under the Petroleum Acts, I should like to mention here that all petroleum stores have been kept under constant supervision, and new stores erected have complied with all the conditions imposed for safety. The total amount of petrol for which licences have been granted during the year is 2,586,360 gallons. The quantity of the petrol stored is rarely as much as the licence allows.

Reviewing the sanitary work carried out during the past five years, the progress made is most satisfactory, although the amount of work has increased with corresponding rapidity.

Approximately 5,000 pail closets and 200 old privies and ashpits have been replaced by water closets. Workshops and work places have increased from 82 to 158. Milk retailers and producers have each increased in numbers by 50 per cent. All cleansing is administered by the Department, whilst inspections are now made more regularly and kept under closer supervision.

New legislation has greatly increased the work as well as being of material assistance in effecting improvements in many directions.

### GENERAL SANITARY WORK.

During the past year 945 informal notices were served on owners or occupiers in connection with 2,136 nuisances existing upon various premises. 34 notices which were not complied with were reported to the Council, on whose instructions Statutory Notices were served to compel the abatement of the nuisances reported.

442 yard drains and 140 water closets drain were reported at the office as being defective or stopped, of these 420 yard drains and 129 water closet drains were cleared without notices being served, or further action taken. In most cases the stoppages were removed by plunging or simple rodding, and were caused by tenants' neglect.



As in previous years the remarkable feature of drain stoppages was the small number of water closet drain stoppages which came to my notice, especially in the poorer districts and considering that there are now approximately 6,000 water closets in use in the area.

The small number of Statutory Notices served is very satisfactory, and shows that the requisitions of informal notices have been reasonable, and that amicable relations exist between owners and the department.

The following table is a summary of the various headings under which notices were served :—

#### DWELLING HOUSES AND SCHOOLS.

Structural defects :—

Nature of Nuisance.	Nuisances Found.	Informal Notices served.	Statutory Notices Served by order of Council.	Notices Abated at end of Year.
Defective chimneys and roofs	... 179	... 112	... 5	... 106
„ walls and floors	... 214	... 126	... 5	... 115
„ windows and fireplaces	... 174	... 131	... 3	... 118
„ plasters and ceilings	... 70	... 48	... 3	... 41
„ doors and door-frames	... 67	... 39	... 1	... 35
„ handrails and staircases	... 31	... 15	—	... 15
„ setpots	... 40	... 18	... 1	... 18
„ spoutings & rain water pipes	213	... 124	... 1	... 114
Insanitary and defective yard surfaces	34	... 16	... 1	... 11
Insufficient accommodation for storage of food	... 6	... 2	... —	... 2

#### HOUSE DRAINAGE :—

Insufficient and defective sinks	... —	... —	... 1	... 1
Slopstones and waste pipes	... 26	... 9	... 1	... 8
Yard drains defective and stopped	... 586	... 76	... 3	... 72
Water closet drains defective & stopped	182	... 41	... 1	... 1
Defective water closet apparatus	... 44	... 18	... —	... 17
Insufficient & defective gullies & grids	93	... 46	... 4	... 42
Animals and fowls improperly kept	... 34	... 21	... 1	... 21
Accumulations of manure	... 7	... 7	... —	... 7
Filthy conditions of houses	... 35	... 27	... —	... 27
Insufficient and defective refuse bins	... 46	... 35	... 3	... 34
Defective house water supplies	... 13	... 11	... —	... 11
Conversion of pan closets into water closets (Sec. 39. P.H.A.A. 1907)	... —	... 890	... —	... 1082
Miscellaneous	... 42	... 23	... —	... 19
Totals	... 2136	... 1835	... 34	... 1917

To compare the past year's numbers under this heading with the previous years would be misleading, in as much as conditions have changed as far as the larger number of notices are concerned. In the years 1921 and 1922, 640 and 833 notices were served for the renewal of privy pans, whilst in 1923 and 1924, 1276 and 1702 notices respectively were served for the conversion of pail closets into water closets.

### COMPLAINTS.

Exclusive of drain stoppages, which it is a local custom for occupiers or owners to report with the object of a man being sent to try to remove the stoppage by plunging, which is done free of charge, the number of complaints were smaller than in the preceding four years and were as follows :—

#### COMPLAINTS :—

Houses requiring repairs	...	...	...	...	26
Defective water closet apparatus	...	...	...	...	13
Defective refuse bins	...	...	...	...	2
Filthy conditions	...	...	...	...	6
Accumulations of refuse	...	...	...	...	7
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	2
Stagnant water	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	6
Total					64

All complaints received had my immediate attention and such action as was necessary was taken to remedy the conditions complained of.

### HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING. (Inspections of District Regulations, 1910).

Of 1,418 premises dealt with, 48 inspections were made under the above regulations of houses which were not in all respects reasonably fit for habitation, and schedules of repairs were served on the owners.

At the close of the year 33 of the above houses, and 15 which were outstanding the previous year had been thoroughly repaired and overhauled. At 4 houses repairs were in progress and negotiations were proceeding for the work to be carried out in the remaining 10 houses.

In almost all of the above cases the defects, whilst of an extensive nature, were not sufficient to require the displacement of the tenants, neither was it found necessary to ask the Council to exercise their powers under the Regulations in connection with any of the houses dealt with.

The great difficulty in securing the compliance of extensive repairs to houses was mainly due to large amounts of arrears of rents, due to lack of employment and the limited resources of owners, which necessitated the repairs being spread over lengthy periods.

Speaking generally the houses in our area are in a fairly good state of repair, and most of the requirements can conveniently be carried out under the Public Health Acts, or informal notice.

No cases came to my notice of any houses which were not, and could not be made in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.

The number of houses repaired by informal notice under the Regulations were :

1921	...	Nil.	1923	...	26.
1922	...	Nil.	1924	...	21.
		1925	...		48

### SCAVENGING AND CLEANSING.

Early in the year 1921, the whole of the street sweeping, collection of night soil, house-hold refuse, trade refuse, gully cleansing, sewer flushing and street watering, was constituted a Cleansing Department and placed under the administration of the Sanitary Inspector.

Since that time, many changes have taken place affecting both methods and work. All night work has been discontinued, and street sweeping is now carried out by men working in pairs who have their allotted districts to keep clean. Two " Ford " motor dust vans are used for refuse collection where the distance between the collecting ground and the tip is greatest, whilst horses are employed on the shorter journeys. Since the conversion of the pail closets was completed, it has been found necessary to devote much more time to sewer flushing, whilst the result of the practice of laying tar macadam in place of water bound roads has resulted in less deposits in the street gullies, easier cleaning of the surfaces, and much less dust.

The system of "tipping" still continues to be our method of household and trade disposal. The only official tip, rented by the Council, covers approximately half an acre of land, which is very small for the needs of the district. During the year, such accumulations as it was necessary to make at the tip were periodically removed to outlying lands. Most of the refuse collected in the South Bank and Grangetown areas was tipped on a large stretch of rough vacant land by arrangement with and owned by the London & North Eastern Railway Company, known as the "Puddling," with the object of filling in large places and stagnant ponds which were a danger to children. Other outlets for the refuse were found on local farms and small holdings.

I would desire to draw attention to the very limited outlets available for our refuse, which, under altered conditions owing to the conversion of the pail closets has lost all value from a manurial stand-point, and in consequence, is not required by persons in the occupation of cultivated land.

The difficulty of disposal by tipping methods, was foreseen in 1921. In May of that year a Report was placed before the Council, drawing attention to conditions existing, and which time has made more apparent, and is now an urgent matter. Tipping space on the "Puddling" is rapidly becoming less as the land is levelled out, and very soon serious difficulties will arise owing to the lack of suitable tipping ground in the area.

The question of refuse disposal has had the consideration of the Council on various occasions without any tangible decision being arrived at, except as far as to what form the disposal shall take. On this point the general opinion has invariably favoured "Separation" process, and with this in view, sample loads have been selected from twelve parts of the area and covering one complete year. The samples taken have been hand sorted, and an average taken from which the following appears to be the general constitution of the refuse collected :—

ESTIMATED COLLECTION PER ANNUM, 6,000 TONS.

Fine Ash (Less than $\frac{3}{8}$ " mesh)	...	...	2527.2	Tons equal to	42.12%
Small Cinder (less than $\frac{3}{4}$ " mesh)	...	...	1309.2	" "	23.17%
Rough Cinders (larger than $\frac{3}{4}$ " mesh)	...	...	391.9	" "	6.53%
Waste Paper	...	...	379.2	" "	6.32%
Vegetable Refuse	...	...	552.6	" "	9.21%
Pot and Stone	...	...	346.8	" "	6.08%
Glass and Bottles	...	...	82.8	" "	1.38%
Old Tins and Iron	...	...	150.	" "	2.50%
Rags, Carpets, etc	...	...	141.6	" "	2.36%
Bones	...	...	18.	" "	.3%
Totals	...	...	5998.2	" "	99.97%



A report on the analysis of fine ash, states that it contains neither manurial or calorific value, whilst an analysis of the small cinder shows it to be suitable for slow combustion stoves, or steam raising, if proportionately used with a fuel of a higher calorific value. It will be seen that other recoverable materials could be disposed of by sale or by burning.

The provision of the necessary plant and station for the disposal of refuse would, in addition to being a much more hygienic method, materially assist in obtaining more efficient administration of the work.

At present there is no definite destination where the refuse collected is taken to, which makes it difficult to record the correct number of loads, or the tonnage of material collected per annum. Each cartman records the number of loads collected daily; and these vary considerably, owing to the varying distances between the collecting areas, and the various tipping grounds.

During the year, the Ministry of Health held a conference to deal with the subject of Collection and Disposal of Refuse and Street Cleansing Costing Returns. The Report of the Conference, has been published, and contains a strongly worded introduction, urging that the secret of effecting savings is by effective costing returns, based on tonnage collection, and that reliable costing returns are essential to economical administration.

### SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

Slaughter Houses are visited regularly and are found in very good condition, being kept thoroughly cleaned and all foul material removed at once. The Slaughter House and Stalls are washed down with quick-lime, and are well supplied with pure water.

### SANITARY CONVENIENCES.

The continued progress of the conversion of pail closets into water closets, under Section 39, of the Public Health Act Amendment Act, 1907, made it possible to totally discontinue night scavenging in May, and at the close of the year the whole of the conversions may be said to have been completed, as only a small number of isolated conveniences remained to be dealt with, having been left owing to difficulties with respect to drainage or buildings.

The first loan for the conversion of pail closets into water closets, was sanctioned by the Ministry of Health, in March, 1923, and a commencement was made on the work the same month, by direct labour, which continued all through the conversion period.

All notices were served and arrangements made by the Sanitary Department, whilst the actual work was carried out under the direction of the Engineer and Surveyor, who made continual inspections to ascertain the efficiency of the sewers.

Comparative figures for the preceding four years are :—

1921	Pail Closets converted (Voluntary)	...	239
1922	„ „ „ „	...	102
1923	„ „ „ „	...	232
	„ „ „ (Scheme)	...	1069
1924	„ „ „ „	...	1776
1925	„ „ „ „	...	1082
	Total	...	<u>4500</u>

At the end of the year there were 62 pail closets still in use in our area, the numbers and reasons for which are set out below :—

Pail Closets, On farms	...	...	9
„ No drainage	...	...	36
„ Temporary use	...	...	9
„ Arrangements in progress	...	...	5
„ Alteration of premises pending	...	...	3
	Total	...	<u>62</u>

### INFECTIOUS DISEASE PREVENTION.

All cases of infectious diseases enumerated in the Report of the Medical Officer of Health, were visited, the premises thoroughly disinfected and such steps taken as were necessary to prevent the spread of infection.

During the Summer holidays all the elementary schools in the district were fumigated, previous to being cleansed or painted by the appropriate Authority.

Special attention was directed against the spread of infection from Small pox cases, which occurred during the year ; the families were isolated and supplied with provisions, whilst the premises, clothing, and bedding were thoroughly disinfected.

The following table gives particulars of houses and other buildings fumigated and the amount of clothing and bedding disinfected during the year :—

			Houses		Rooms		Schools and other Buildings
Infectious Diseases other than Tuberculosis	...	...	190	...	429	...	34
Tuberculosis	...	...	26	...	26	...	
Vermin	...	...	15	...	45	...	
Miscellaneous	...	...	6	...	14	...	
Total	...	...	<u>237</u>	...	<u>514</u>	...	<u>34</u>

1376 Articles of Clothing or bedding were steam fumigated or destroyed.

### SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

The number of slaughter houses in the district at the end of the year was 13, an increase of one on the previous year.

All slaughter houses are regularly visited, and generally speaking are conducted in a satisfactory manner. Any verbal request, with respect to limewashing, repairs, or the renewal of manure and offals were attended to without any undue delay.

From the following statement it will be seen that there is a shortage of slaughter houses in the district :—

District.			Number of English Meat Butchers.		Yearly Licence.		Not Licenced.
South Bank	...	...	10	...	3	...	3
Normanby	...	...	2	...	—	...	1
Eston	...	...	6	...	3	...	—
Grangetown	...	...	4	...	3	...	—
Totals	...	...	<u>22</u>	...	<u>9</u>	...	<u>4x</u>

Co-operative Society Branches are not included in the number of butchers, as their supplies are received from the Society's Central Abattoir, which is outside our area.

These slaughter houses are not licenced, the owners contending that they are "Registered," a question which will have to be settled at some future time, by proceedings being taken against these people, to prove that their premises are Registered Slaughter Houses.

The provision of a Public Abattoir for our district for which plans were prepared is still in abeyance, owing to what has been considered more urgent schemes. The position with regard to slaughter houses in the district continues to be of a very limited nature. With the Meat Regulations now in force a central slaughter hall would, in addition to providing more accommodation for butchers, greatly improve the conditions under which cottagers and small holders are now slaughtering animals for sale for food. It is hoped that the provision will again be considered in the near future.

### INSPECTION OF MEAT AND FOOD.

During the year this very important branch of the work received my most careful attention, 2061 inspections were made in connection with meat and foods.

The number of animals slaughtered for sale for food which were examined was 3,909.

On April 1st, a most important Regulation in meat inspection came into force known as the " Meat Regulation " which made it compulsory for all persons slaughtering animals for sale for food, to give three hours' notice of their intention, stating the day, time, and place at which the slaughter would take place. Under these " Regulations " 1,014 notices of the intended slaughter of 2,301 animals was received between April 1st, and the end of the year.

The slaughter houses are spread over the whole of the district, whilst notices of slaughter are received from cottagers and others in widely separated parts of the area. General slaughtering takes place mostly on well known days and almost simultaneous times, whilst private persons usually kill after their working day has ended. In the summer time most killing is delayed until the cool of the evening so as to assist in the setting of the carcase. This involves a great amount of night inspection, as it is essential that all the organs shall be present when the examination is made, otherwise the inspection cannot be complete and any sign of disease may be removed.

It must be admitted that since the Meat Regulations came into force much more meat has been inspected. This is not due to any previous neglect of the work, but owing to many slaughters taking place without the Inspector's knowledge. With the assistance of compulsory notification every effort is made to inspect all slaughtering, which has been made much more possible by the provision of a motor cycle, which was purchased by the Council for the use of the department, and without which it would have been impossible to make so many inspections.



In addition to meat inspection, careful attention was paid to other foods, the local markets, fruit ware-houses, and grocers, etc., were regularly visited.

The amount of meat and food found to be diseased, unsound, or unfit for food, and which was in all cases surrendered and destroyed, is set out in detail below :—

Articles surrendered.					Approximate lbs. weight.	
BEEF :—						
Carcases or portions thereof	...	...	...	...	...	7896
Heads	...	...	...	...	...	32
Lungs	...	...	...	...	...	63
Livers	...	...	...	...	...	343
Kidneys	...	...	...	...	...	40
Stomachs and Intestines	...	...	...	...	...	280
Mutton	...	...	...	...	...	210
Pork	...	...	...	...	...	964
Veal	...	...	...	...	...	12
Rabbits	...	...	...	...	...	88
Frozen or Chilled Beef	...	...	...	...	...	156
Bacon and Ham	...	...	...	...	...	142
Fruit and Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	3304
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	30
Total					13,560	

Comparative tonnage of meats and Food destroyed :—

		TONS.	CWTS.	STONES	LBS.
1925	...	6	1	0	8
1924	...	1	15	5	12
1923	...		19	5	8
1922	...	3	11	6	12
1921	...	2	0	7	10

The quantity of meat and food destroyed was greatly in excess of previous years. Whilst the general quality of the meat sold is very good, more whole carcasses were surrendered than in previous years. The large amount of fruit destroyed was mainly apples and pears ; a good amount of these being taken from the markets.

## FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACTS.

The Factory and Workshop Acts, is carried out by an Officer of the Home Office, who investigates each accident as reported to him and systematically visits all premises that come under this Act. So far as the Medical Officer of Health is concerned he visits Workshops, Public Works, Milk-Shops and Fried Fish Shops, periodically to see that the Sanitary conditions of these different places are properly kept up. We have had at times to draw attention to insanitary conditions existing, but have had no difficulty in getting these matters put to rights. There are several public Bakeries in the area, which have been visited periodically and found to be kept in a clean and sanitary condition.

## FOOD INSPECTION.

In regard to food inspection, there is a regular routine throughout the area to obtain samples for analysis. This is sent to the Public Analyst at Leeds, and is reported to the Sanitary Committee regularly. In reference to Milk, samples are taken frequently and examined in the Council Chambers, and where there is the slightest doubt, a sample is sent off to the Analyst and the reports sent to the Committee to decide on the merits of the Report whether there is a case for prosecution or warning.

There is a weekly Market held here which is attended by Dealers from all over the surrounding districts. The goods are examined carefully and the ground is patrolled till closing time to prevent any article which is unfit for human food being exposed for sale. The Regulations in regard to Butcher Meat are carried out to the letter by a constant surveillance of the slaughter houses and a rigid adherence to notification of the time they are going to kill, with the result that I have condemned several carcasses as being unfit for human food. The Carcasses condemned have all been given up and as a precautionary measure against any illicit trading, the carcasses are cut up and dumped into one of the Blast Furnaces in the neighbourhood. Notices were sent from two farms that a beast had been slaughtered at each place and that they were ready for examination so that they could be boiled up and made into smalls. On investigation it was found that they had been sick and that they killed them before death could take place. In one case the illness took place some time after Calving. The other had been reduced to a skeleton. The Carcasses were seized and disposed of as above.

## FOOD AND DRUGS.

The number of samples of food and drugs purchased or submitted for analysis during the year was 47, of these, 38 samples of New Milk and 3 samples of Jam were taken under the provisions of Section 13 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1875; whilst 4 samples of new milk were taken informally. The result of the analysis of

the 42 samples of new milk showed 41 to be genuine and one adulterated by a deficiency in fat, to the extent of 6.6%. No action was taken by the Council in this case owing to the vendor having discontinued the business when the Council met.

41 of the samples of new milk were tested by the department for specific gravity by "Hydrometer." Total solids by "Lactodensimeter," and fat content by the acid test in connection with "Butyrometer," by using sulphuric acid and alcohol and combining a centrifugal process. This apparatus was purchased for the purpose of testing the milk quickly and economically, and has proved most satisfactory, as well as a great saving. Samples of new milk showing any deficiency are forwarded to the County Analyst to be dealt with.

One sample of new milk was taken at a farm shortly after two cows had been slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order, 1925. The herd was kept under observation during milking and a sample of the mixed milk was taken and submitted for bacteriological examination, the result being certified as—no tubercular bacilli found.

Three samples of jams in glass containers were taken and submitted for analysis for glass particles, on these the Analyst reported that no broken glass particles could be found. With respect to the quality of the jams, the following are abstracts of the reports received :—

Strawberry Jam.—There is a trace of sandy matter which is nearly always present in a low growing fruit like strawberries, it is not injurious.

Black Currant Jam.—Genuine.

Raspberry and Apple Jam.—Microscopic examination showed the presence of maggots which had evidently been boiled up with the fruit, there was also a small quantity of decayed leaf present.

The above results were reported to the Council, who gave instructions for copies of the Analyst's Certificates to be forwarded to the vendors and the Ministry of Health.

## DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILK-SHOPS.

The number of retail milk purveyors on the Register at the end of the year was 51, and the number of wholesalers and producers for whom it is now necessary, under the Milk and Dairies Amendment Act, to keep a separate Register, was 22.

Each of the Cowsheds and Milk shops have been regularly visited. Many of the retailers only deal with a small quantity daily, the main business usually being mixed stores, confectionery, etc., In this class of store the milk is easily contaminated by the smell or dust from such articles as onions, fire lighters, smoked fish, etc.

In 1924 the Council adopted a good type of receptacle which aimed as far as possible to prevent contamination, this consists of a porcelain bowl, with a detachable aluminium or clean metal cover. All persons wishing to carry on the trade of a milk retailer in a mixed store are requested to provide an approved bowl and cover before Registration, whilst such articles as firelighters, vinegar, onions and root crops are recommended to be kept in another part of the premises. No serious objections to these requirements have yet been brought to my notice.

The cowsheds and Dairies, which mainly constitute the premises occupied by the producers and wholesalers were kept under constant supervision. Great improvements have been made to these premises during the past five years. Three cowsheds constructed on up to date lines have been erected in place of old and obsolete buildings, whilst the producers are rapidly becoming more careful in both the milking and handling of milk.

It is a matter of regret that no producers in our area had, up to the end of the year, so far improved his methods as to request that he should be licensed for the sale of graded milk.

Special visits were made to the Cow sheds at the time of turning the Cattle out to grass and at the season for taking them in for the winter. Where lime-washing was required the occupiers were requested to carry out the work and subsequent visits were made to see that the requirements were carried out. Minor repairs were carried out without any difficulties arising.

## FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

The whole of the workshops and workplaces were regularly inspected during the year whilst periodical visits were made to the factories in the area. The defects found were chiefly want of cleanliness, not keeping Registers, and neglect to have abstracts posted.

The number of workshops and workplaces on the Register at the end of the year was 158. Particulars of each trade carried on is set out as follows :—



Bakers and Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	43
Joiners, Cabinet Makers, and Undertakers	...	...	...	...	...	21
Tailors, Dressmakers and Milliners	...	...	...	...	...	30
Boot Repairers	...	...	...	...	...	15
Plumbers, Tinsmiths and Blacksmiths	...	...	...	...	...	13
Painters and Printers	...	...	...	...	...	6
Cycle and Motor Repairers	...	...	...	...	...	9
Firewood Chopping and Bundling	...	...	...	...	...	5
All other Workshops	...	...	...	...	...	16
Total						158

INSPECTIONS.—Made by Sanitary Inspector (Home Office Form).

Premises	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	42	15	
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	224	45	
Workplaces (other than out- workers Premises)	16	4	
Total	282	64	Nil.

### OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Offensive Trades as enumerated in the Public Health Acts, are practically negligible in our district, and no Bye-Laws are in force extending the meaning of "offensive" to other Trades.

Several of the butchers boil the tripe and clean the guts of the animals they kill, but no labour is employed solely in connection with the work.

The "Meat Regulations" prohibits the cleaning of guts etc., in slaughter houses. This caused a little trouble when first the Regulations came into force, but these have now disappeared.

The question of making fried fish and chip dealers an offensive trade was discussed by the Council during the previous year, owing to their increased numbers during the past years; but it was decided that no action should be taken in the matter.

### POLLUTION OF STREAMS.

There were no cases of pollution of streams which flow through the district. Workmen periodically remove obstructions which have been thrown in by children.

### COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are only two common lodging houses in the district, the accommodation of which is greatly in excess of the requirements, consequently there is no fear of overcrowding.

During the year, 124 visits were made to see that the Bye-Laws were being carried out and the houses properly conducted. All floors are swept daily, and all rooms, landings, and staircases scrubbed each week. Bed clothes are changed weekly, or on a request being made at the time of inspection. The keepers appear to do their best to keep the houses free from vermin, which is a very difficult matter, especially in the summer time owing to the class of persons occupying the beds.

A review of the condition of the lodging houses during the past five years shows a great improvement in their condition and management which is due to regular inspections being made. Both houses now have water closets in place of pail closets, proper washing accommodation is provided with towels and soap. Any request now made for cleansing or the better conduct of the houses is readily agreed to. No difficulty is experienced in getting small repairs carried out by the owners.

### RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

In the month of July, 1920, the North Riding County Council transferred their powers under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, to the Urban Council, and your Sanitary Inspector was appointed to carry out the provisions of the Act.

Since that time many premises have received attention, and the vermin exterminated by the use of traps, etc., whilst examination has frequently revealed defective drains, walls or floors, which, on being thoroughly repaired have rid the premises of the vermin. Rat lime, a sticky substance laid on cardboard was most successfully used in getting rid of the infestation of rats on premises used for the preparation of food.

There is no doubt that the land known as the "Puddling" at South Bank, on which are many temporary buildings used as pig styes, and hen houses, afford a good cover and feeding ground for rats, and from which their extermination will be a difficult matter. Many complaints of rats in that area have been investigated and have been found to be stray rats which have got into yards or houses from the streets.

Before the conversion of the pail closets took place, and when great accumulations of night soil and refuse were deposited on the Council's tip there is no doubt there was both a good cover and feeding ground provided for rats, but as accumulations are now regularly removed no rats are now to be found.

All complaints of rat infestation were inquired into and as far as possible "runs" were destroyed and repairs effected to prevent further trouble.

### CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, I would take this opportunity of acknowledging my indebtedness to the Chairman, Councillors, Medical Officer of Health, and other officials for the help I have received in carrying out my duties.

I am always pleased to receive any suggestions for the better administration or improvement of the Sanitary services which it is my sincere wish to advance for the benefit of the District.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM LINSLEY,

Sanitary Inspector and  
Cleansing Superintendent.







